GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3992
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2001
DEBT ON FOREIGN COUNTRIES
DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign countries have to pay huge debt to the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India alongwith interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the principal amount as well as interest amount separately, country-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to take some steps to recover the amount of principal and interest and to monitor such debts in future after payment of same by each country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) and (b): The amounts outstanding are in respect of claims paid by ECGC in rupees on account of exports made from India and in respect of which the exporters failed to realise the proceeds. There is no agreed rate of interest on such outstanding dues. Most of the countries involved are very poor highly indebted countries and are enjoying substantial `debt relief` from all developed countries. Details of claims paid by ECGC in rupees and outstanding for recovery country-wise are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d): The amounts due are in the nature of trade outstanding. ECGC, on its part, is endeavoring to recover as much of the dues as possible through diplomatic channels as well as debt recovery arrangements. In order to resolve the issue of unpaid debt by certain trading partners of India, the Government has constituted a Committee. The Committee has decided to have a detailed data base of debts prepared by the Reserve Bank of India with the assistance of Exim Bank and ECGC country-wise, with a view to having these reconciled with the foreign governments through our Commercial Missions, and exploring the possibility of recovery of debts through various measures like Debt Equity Swap etc., as also for formulating proposals for resolution of debt problem on a country to country basis.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3992 ANSWER ON 23.3.2001

Statement of claims paid and outstanding for recovery as on 28.2.2001

Rs. in crores.

Sr.No.	Name of the Country	Outstanding Total Amount
1.	Iraq	481.67
2.	Uganda	57.05
3.	Sudan	34.67
4.	Cuba	41.36
5.	Angola	22.66
6.	Tanzania	4.01
7	Mozambique	9.52
8.	Zambia	14.74

9. Sierraieone 1.50
10. Vietnam 2.05
11. Nicaragua 1.07
12. Ethiopia 23.49
13. Seychelles 1.61
14. Egypt 0.12
15. Ghana 0.04
16. Guyana 0.30
17. Malawi 0.03
18. Romania 0.28
19. Syria 0.06
20. Upper Volta 0.17
21. Venezuela 0.06
22. Y.A.R. 0.05
23. Iran 0.06
24. Kenya 0.02
25. Libya 0.94
26. Nigeria 0.07
27. Saudi Arabia 0.37

Total 697.97